

Toting a Torch Down the Ages

Strange Devices Used by
Primitive Men; Then
Came Electricity.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Thousands of years before the discovery of electricity, a caveman invented the first hand light that gave illumination without fire.

That light which nudged back the night for prehistoric man was a perforated gourd crammed full of luminous bugs.

After the feeble phosphorescent glow flickered out in the cave man's hand, the very dawn of recorded history was not until Edison's invention of the incandescent lamp that man was able to produce satisfactory portable light without using fire.

Even then, years were to pass before the modern electric flashlight became possible, according to J. C. Calhoun of the Winchester Repeating Arms company division of Olin Industries, Inc.

Before electricity, fire was the only source of illumination for hand lights.

While the primitive torch was used in a limited way, the torch of central Europe, highly civilized Japan, and elsewhere, was used in a more advanced way.

Even 150 years later Henry the Eighth was still carrying a torch in England. He called it a "torch" and it was only a pipe soaked in tallow, resin and tar.

Used Fat in a Stick.

Asia was no lighter at night than darkest Africa. Kublai Khan, who established the Mongol dynasty in China, produced light from a stick of fat that had been soaked into a stick.

Coming down to more modern times we find that Sweden's ancient legends burned the body of the first king of the Swedes, Eric, for three days. This was so far that by lighting a stick of fat and holding it over the body, the king's body was kept from rotting.

Candle went almost as old as the torch. The early Phoenicians are credited with having invented the wax candle, and the candle is supposed to have preceded the lantern by two centuries.

Early American sailors made candles from tallow, which was made from animal fat. The tallow was melted and poured into a mold, and the candles were used for lighting.

The oil lamp, another ancient form of hand light, was almost universally used in ancient times. But the first real improvement in lighting did not come until the discovery of petroleum and the subsequent development of kerosene lamps and the kerosene mantle burner.

These things happened quickly. Edison's electric light made electricity as illuminating as the best fire. It was to make electricity portable that the flashlight was invented.

Leakage was the trouble. The flashlight's "oil" was a mixture of kerosene and alcohol, and it leaked out of the flashlight's "oil" can. The flashlight's "oil" can was made of glass and it leaked out of the glass can.

Now when the pressure pump produces electricity when you press the switch of a flashlight, it is a modern flashlight. The flashlight's "oil" can is made of metal and it does not leak.

French Loaves, Excluding
Pauers, Total 130,000

PARIS, France (AP)—The new bread law which went into effect today will require that all bread be made from wheat and that the flour be milled in France.

Jap's Prison Toll 15,000 in 2 Years

British, Dutch Targets of
Enemy's Brutality.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, LONDON, June 18.—More than 15,000 British and Dutch prisoners of the Japanese died in the two years ending in June 1944 after being sent to the Japanese prison camps.

Survivors rescued by American forces from the prison camps at Singapore said the death toll was much higher than the official figures.

After the surrender of Singapore, prisoners were kept there for months in unsanitary conditions.

In June 1942, 20,000 British prisoners were sent to the Japanese prison camps in the Philippines.

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It was horrible to see men dying in the prison camps. The Japanese were very cruel.

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Farm Topics

Thrifty Practices
Save Feed in Winter

Hay and Silage Can Be
Substituted for Grain

Much has been said this year about how to save dairy feed concentrates. E. J. Perry, extension dairyman at Rutgers university, suggests checking up on management methods more to see that profitable feed is wasted.

During the dark feeding period, he says, feed little or no grain to dairy cows and substitute hay and silage.

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Marines on First Pay Day Stage a PX Raid

WITH THE MARINES in their first pay in four months, and opening for business was the first PX in half a year. Small wonder that the veteran marines were in line hours before the new PX was ready for business, reports Marine news.

It was an unrelenting luxury to be buying cigars by the carton, razor blades, shaving cream and soap in quantity, and beer at five cents a can—even if a man was limited to one can.

One marine long hungry for the chance to step up to the counter with his money, said "I was in the PX line for an hour and a half before I got to the counter."

First man in line was a Marine from the 1st Marine Division, who said "I was in the PX line for an hour and a half before I got to the counter."

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So the city folks have done it! Well, watch our speed!

WORD comes from Washington that the fat, salty problem has got to be licked in the small cities, the towns and on the farms.

We women have to save enough used fats in our kitchens to help make munitions, medicines, fabrics, soap for military and civilian use, and many other essentials.

The job, to date, has been done largely by city people, because arrangements for collecting the fats were made in the cities first. Now we're called on. And will we meet our goal? Just watch our speed!

HOW TO DO IT: Scrape butter and roasting pan, skin and bones, and meat trimmings and table scraps. Add the liquid fat to your salvage can. Take the can to your butcher when full. He will give you two red points and up to four cents for every pound. If you have any difficulty, call your City or County Agent. This message has been approved by WPA and GPC and paid for by Industry.

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Personals

Ruth Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Carter, who is in the Virginia Baptist Hospital, was home Sunday.

Mrs. W. R. Reed is teaching in a Christian Workers' Training School in Lynchburg this week.

Mrs. A. A. Babcock, Miss Harriette Holley and Miss Mary Bell Babcock were hostesses for the April meeting of Circle No. 2 of the Women's Society of Christian Service at the Memorial Church. The meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Babcock, with Mrs. Claude Smith as program leader.

Mrs. Florence McCormick is spending this week in Chesapeake, Ohio, with her brother, Rev. H. B. Jones, who is ill.

Mrs. and Mrs. Lewis B. Winters were called to Lancaster County, Pa., due to the illness and death of his father.

The Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Jones and Dr. W. M. Winn, of Clarksville, last week and also visited with Mrs. C. F. Fosse, of Lawrenceville, where they were joined by their sister, Mrs. Clyde Saunders.

Mrs. C. C. McCray continues ill at Roanoke hospital.

Mrs. Sammie Cheatham is in England receiving treatment from a doctor.

Mrs. Cameron Seay and daughter, Lucie Watkins, returned to their home in Richmond Monday, after spending several days with Mrs. C. W. Smith and Mrs. J. W. Smith.

Mrs. Margaret Morrison, of Arlington, accompanied by her brother, Harold Caudle, who has been working at Pearl Harbor, were guests of the Virginia Baptist Hospital, where they were joined by their sister, Mrs. C. F. Fosse, of Lawrenceville, where they were joined by their sister, Mrs. Clyde Saunders.

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